

## **Remarks**

The Office Action dated September 27, 2007 has been reviewed carefully and the application amended in a sincere effort to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection of the claims, and allowance of the same, are respectfully requested on the basis of the following remarks.

Upon entry of this response, claims 1-2, 6-19, 21-47, and 51-52 will be pending in the application.

Claims 1, 23, and 32 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found on page 18, line 25, to page 19, line 18 as well as page 5, lines 1-6.

Claims 3-5, 20, and 48-50 have been canceled.

### **Claim Objections**

The Applicants appreciate the examiner's recommendation with regard to claim 32. Per the examiner's recommendation, the Applicants have amended the claim to include the comma. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim objection is respectfully requested.

### **Rejection of claims 1, 2, 6-7, 16-19, 21-26, 29-30, 32-33, 35, 44-47, and 51-52 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a)**

The examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 6-7, 16-19, 21-26, 29-30, 32-33, 35, 44-47, and 51-52 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Honig (U.S. Pat. No. 6,174,422) in light of Zwack (U.S. Pat. No. 5,948,229).

Honig appears to disclose that the dialkyltin oxide is dispersed in an acid-free aqueous dispersion or solution of one or more hydroxycarboxylic acid salts of bismuth(III). This dispersion is then optionally comminuted (ground or milled) in process step b) thereby forming the catalyst paste. See column 1, line 64, to column 3, line 18.

In contrast to Honig, the present invention clearly recites that the catalyst is added to the resin and/or the curing agent in the absence of an aqueous medium. Moreover, in contrast to Honig, the present invention clearly recites that the resinous phase which contains the catalyst is not subjected to a grinding or milling operation.

Additionally, Zwack does not overcome the shortcomings of Honig. As stated in the Applicants previous response, Zwack appears to disclose that the oranotin-containing catalyst (c) is dispersed in a conventional pigment grinding vehicle (pigment paste) which is subjected to a grinding step. See Abstract, column 5, lines 56-59, as well as Example IV-A.

In contrast to Zwack, the resinous phase of the present invention is not subjected to a grinding step.

Because neither Honig nor Zwack, alone or in combination, disclose and/or suggest every feature that is recited in Applicants' claims 1, 23, and 32, Applicants submit that these claims, and the claims that depend directly or indirectly therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

**Rejection of claims 8-10, 27, 31, 34, and 36-38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**

The examiner has rejected claims 8-10, 27, 31, 34, and 36-38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Honig in light of Zwack.

The examiner concedes that Honig does not disclose and/or suggest the recited resin. See page 4 of the Office Action.

As stated above, neither Honig nor Zwack, alone or in combination, disclose and/or suggest that the catalyst is added to the resin and/or the curing agent in the absence of an aqueous medium. Moreover, neither Honig nor Zwack, alone or in combination, disclose and/or suggest the feature that resinous phase in which the catalyst is added is not subjected to a grinding or milling operation. Claims 8-10, 27, 31, 34, and 36-38 depend directly and/or indirectly from claims 1, 23, and 32. Applicants, therefore, submit that these claims are in condition for allowance.

**Rejection of claims 11-15, 28, and 39-43 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**

The examiner has rejected claims 11-15, 28, and 39-42 as allegedly being unpatentable over Honig in light of Zwack and in view of Nishiguchi (U.S. Pat. 6,761,973).

The examiner concedes that neither Honig nor Zwack disclose and/or suggest the recited blocking agent. See page 4 of the Office Action.

In general, Nishiguchi appears to disclose a cationic resin composition comprising a cationic resin (A) and a blocked polyisocyanate (B). See Abstract.

However, neither Honig, Zwack nor Nishiguchi disclose and/or suggest using 1,3-glycols and/or 1,2-glycols as blocking agents. Moreover, as stated above, neither Honig nor Zwack, alone or in combination, disclose and/or suggest that the catalyst is added to the resin and/or the curing agent in the absence of an aqueous medium. Additionally, neither Honig nor Zwack disclose and/or suggest the feature that resinous phase in which the catalyst is added is not subjected to a grinding or milling operation. Claims 11-15, 28, and 39-42 depend directly and/or indirectly from claims 1, 23, and 32. The Applicants, therefore, submit that these claims are in condition for allowance.

### **Conclusion**

In light of the foregoing arguments, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2, 6-19, 21-47, and 51-52 are in proper form for issuance of a Notice of Allowance and such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Diaz  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 55,109

Telephone No.: (412) 434-2996  
Facsimile No.: (412) 434-4292

PPG Industries, Inc.  
One PPG Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15272